

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PHNOM 09375 051203Z

43

ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 PER-05 PM-07 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01

RSC-01 /052 W

----- 009705

R 051119Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2867

SECDEF WASHDC

CJCS WASHDC

INFO CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

COMUSSAG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PHNOM PENH 9375

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CB

SUBJ: POSSIBLE PRESS QUERIES ON NEW DEFENSE ATTACHES

1. SOME MEMBERS OF THE PRESS CORPS HERE ARE PLANNING TO FILE ON THE ASSISTANT ARMY ATTACHES WITH GENERAL RESERVE UNITS IN THE PHNOM PENH AREA, INFERRING OR CHARGING THAT THEY ARE UNDERTAKING ADVISORY ROLES. AMBADDADOR SWANK GOT A QUESTION ON THIS YESTERDAY AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE. WE PROPOSE TO ANSWER PRESS QUERIES IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER.

2. Q. WHO ARE THESE MEN? A. THEY ARE ASSISTANT ARMY ATTACHES.

Q. ARE THESE MEN NEW ADDITIONS TO THE EMBASSY'S MILITARY STAFF? A. FOUR ARE RECENT ADDITONS TO THE STAFF BROUGHT IN TO MEET ADDITIONAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AS A RESULT OF THE ENEMY OFFENSIVE IN THE PHNOM PENH AREA, AND ELSEWHERE. THEY SUPPLEMENT THE DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE'S BASIC COMPLEMENT OF 17. ALL COME UNDER THE MISSION'S 200 MAN U.S. PERSONNEL CEILING, OF COURSE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PHNOM 09375 051203Z

4. Q. ARE THESE ADDITIONS TEMPORARY? A. THE FOUR
ADDITIONAL ATTACHES ARE ON TEMPORARY DUTY ORDERS. THEY
WILL REMAIN AS LONG AS WE FEEL THAT THE INFORMATION
THEY GATHER IS REQUIRED.

5. Q. WHAT ARE THEIR DUTIES AND DO THEY HAVE ADVISORY
FUNCTIONS? A. THEY GATHER DATA ON THE MILITARY SITUATION AS DO ALL ARMY ATTACHES AND REPORT TO THE EMBASSY.
THEIR INSTRUCTIONS PROHIBIT THEM FROM ACTING AS MILITARY
ADVISORS TO THE UNITS THEY VISIT.

6. Q. DO THEY CARRY RADIOS AND WEAPONS? A. ALL MILITARY
ATTACHES CARRY RADIOS FOR CONTACTING THE EMBASSY. ON OCCASION
THEY MAY CARRY SIDEARMS DEPENDING ON THE SITUATION. THESE,
HOWEVER, ARE ONLY FOR THEIR INDIVIDUAL PROTECTION, AND
ALL MILITARY ATTACHES ARE UNDER ORDERS NOT TO ENGAGE IN
COMBAT ACTIVITY OR TO EXPOSE THEMSELVES TO UNNECESSARY
DANGER AT ANY TIME.

7. Q. ARE THEY ASSIGNED SPECIFIC UNITS? A. EACH
MILITARY ATTACHE HAS SEVERAL REPORTING AREAS ASSIGNED
TO HIM AND CONCENTRATES ON THEM. NO ATTACHE IS ASSIGNED
TO COVER ONLY ONE UNIT.

8. Q. WHY CAN'T YOU RELY ON INFORMATION COMING THROUGH
THE GENERAL STAFF? A. WE ARE IN CLOSE AND CONTINUOUS
CONTACT WITH THE GENERAL STAFF, AND RELY LARGELY ON
THEIR INFORMATION. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT
TO BE ABLE TO FORM OUR OWN, INDEPENDENT JUDGEMENT OF
WHAT HAS AT TIMES BEEN A FLUID MILITARY SITUATION.

9. Q. HOW OFTEN DO THEY GO AND HOW LONG DO THEY REMAIN
IN THE FIELD? A. THEY TRY TO VISIT MOST SECTORS AROUND
PHNOM PENH DAILY. THEY REMAIN THERE AS LONG AS IS
NECESSARY TO OBTAIN ACCURATE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SITUATION
AND THIS WILL, OF COURSE, VARY WITH CONDITIONS. THEY
NEVER REMAIN OVER NIGHT, HOWEVER.
ENDERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMY ATTACHES, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PHNOM09375
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730954/aaaabniw.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Nov-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <03-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE PRESS QUERIES ON NEW DEFENSE ATTACHES
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, PINR, CB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005